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E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/07/2017  
TAGS: PREL AORC MASS UN HA UY

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: URUGUAY SUPPORTIVE OF ONE-YEAR  
MANDATE RENEWAL FOR MINUSTAH

REF: STATE 015808

Classified By: Charge D'Affaires James D. Nealon  
for reasons 1.4 (B) and (D)

¶11. (C) On February 8, DCM met with the MFA's Director General for Political Affairs Alvaro Gallardo regarding reftel demarche aimed at impressing on China the need to support a one-year renewal for MINUSTAH at current authorized force levels, with the intention of further renewals. The demarche was also delivered separately to Multilateral Affairs Director Beatriz Nunez.

¶12. (C) Gallardo said that the MFA had recently discussed the issue with the PRC's Ambassador Wang Xiaoyuan who told him that a six-month extension was "no problem," but that the Chinese were still "playing around" with support for the full one-year mandate. Gallardo added that Ambassador Wang Xiaoyuan assured him that China was interested in renewing the MINUSTAH mandate because of its own contribution of some 300 police officers to Haiti.

¶12. (C) Comment: Though Gallardo did not explicitly commit to further pressure on the Chinese, he appeared to be on top of the issue and sympathetic to our position. End Comment.

Baxter